AN INTERESTING NEW CALIFORNIA THRIPS

BY DUDLEY MOULTON

Mr. Richard S. Bagnall, in his interesting paper on the Classification of the Thysanoptera, (Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist., Ser. 10, Vol. 5, p. 574, May, 1930), erects a new Superfamily, *Melanothripoidea*, for the Family *Melanothripidæ*, Bagnall. One of the characters included in this Superfamily is "Apex of fore tibia armed with a dagger-like scoop, or, if simple, antennal joint one or two so armed." Other characters of the included genera are three-jointed maxillary and two-jointed labial palpi, single or horseshoe-shaped sense area on each of third and fourth antennal segments and the absence of a tarsal hook.

The genus *Dactuliothrips* with a maxillary palpus of three and a labial palpus of two segments cannot be included in the Superfamily *Aeolothripoidea* Hood, Family *Orothripidæ* Bagnall, although it has many characters in common with this group. Also it cannot be included in the Family *Melanothripidæ* Bagnall, nor in the Superfamily *Melanothripoidea* Bagnall, as now recognized although the predominating characters would seem to place it in this superfamily. I am therefore erecting a new family, *Dactuliothripidæ*, and genus and placing them as follows:

Superfamily MELANOTHRIPOIDEA Bagnall
Family **Dactuliothripidæ** Moulton
Genus **Dactuliothrips** Moulton
(*Daktulios*—a ring)

Having the general appearance of an ***Orothrips*** or ***Melanothrips.*** Antennæ long and slender, with all segments freely movable and reduced gradually beyond the second. Segments three to nine each with nine to eleven distinct annulations or rings which are surrounded by whorls of setæ. Each of segments three and four with two circular to oblong sense areas near tip. Maxillary palpus with three segments and geniculate between second and third, labial palpus with two segments. Fore tibia unarmed, each fore tarsus with a distinct hook-like appendage. Wings fully developed, broadly rounded at tip, with ring vein, two longitudinal and four cross veins. Ovipositor curved upward.

The genus *Dactuliothrips* may be separated from *Orothrips* by the shape of the antennæ and the three-segmented maxillary

palpus and two-segmented labial palpus. It may be separated from *Melanothrips* by the presence of two circular sense areas on segments three and four and the presence of a tarsal hook-like appendage.

Dactuliothrips spinosus Moulton, n. sp.

Female holotype: Color uniformly brown to light brown with fore tibiæ and tarsi and third antennal segment yellowish. Wings uniformly light grayish brown, without darkened cross bands. Body and wing spines dark brown.

Total body length, 1.44 mm.; head, length .176 mm., width .205 mm.; prothorax, length .147 mm., width .235 mm.; mesothorax, width .32 mm.; abdomen, width .47 mm. Segments of antenna: length (width) I, 23 (36); II, 40 (30); III, 56 (23); IV, 66 (21); V, 63 (18); VI, 63 (17); VII, 50 (16); VIII, 46 (13); IX, 53 (10); total length of antenna 456 microns. Length of spines: interocellar 73 microns, postoculars, outer and inner, 80 microns, median dorsal on ninth abdominal segment 133 microns, on tenth segment 140 microns.

Head slightly longer than wide, depressed in front at base of antenna, cheeks slightly arched. Interocellar, postoculars, and other spines prominent. Eyes produced in front, ocelli fully developed. Mouth cone short. Antenna slender, 2.6 times longer than head.

Prothorax with numerous conspicuous spines, especially those at angles and margins. Legs with numerous conspicuous spines. Fore femora thickened and armed with a series of four short spurs on distal half of inner anterior margin. Fore tibia without armature except a pair of stout spines at tip. Wings with regularly placed spines on costa, sixteen on fore vein and thirteen on hind vein.

Abdomen broadly ovate with tergites transversely striate and more or less densely pubescent at the sides. Terminal segments small.

Male allotype: Smaller than female, body length .97 mm. Body, legs, and wings lighter in color than in female, but with all body, leg, and wing spines conspicuously prominent by their dark color. The single male specimen has an armature of only three spurs on inner distal half of each fore femora instead of four as in the female.

Type material: Female holotype, male allotype, six female paratypes taken on *Prunus demissa* (Choke-cherry), May 19, 1929 (G. R. Struble). All types in author's collection. (Moulton No. 3832.)

Type locality: Willow Ranch, Siskiyou County, California.